

Claims

I claim:

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1. A method of operating a distributed processing system to share data among distributed systems, comprising:
- providing a first system;
- coupling the first system to a network, the network being configured to be coupled to distributed devices;
- operating an agent on the distributed devices, the agent operating to manage a workload on the distributed devices;
- 10 allocating shared data storage on the distributed devices;
- storing information within the shared data storage; and
- allowing the agents operating on the distributed devices to access the information stored in the shared data storage on the distributed devices.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate rapid searching of employment information by either a person seeking employment or an employer seeking an employee.
- 20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the information stored comprises personal user data to be shared with friends and relatives.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate communication between multiple distributed devices.
- 25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate processing of workloads by the distributed devices.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the workload facilitating information on one distributed device comprises identities of other distributed devices.

5 7. A distributed processing system with shared data capabilities, comprising:
a first system coupled to a network, the network being configured to be coupled to distributed devices; and
a plurality of the distributed devices having agents that process distributed workloads and having information stored in shared data storage, the distributed devices allowing agents on other distributed devices to access the shared data storage on the distributed devices.

10 8. The distributed processing system of claim 7, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate rapid searching of employment information by either a person seeking employment or an employer seeking an employee.

9. The distributed processing system of claim 7, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate communication between multiple distributed devices.

20 10. The distributed processing system of claim 7, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate processing of workloads by the distributed devices.

25 11. A method of operating a distributed processing system to distribute data among distributed systems, comprising:
providing a first system;
coupling the first system to a network, the network being configured to be coupled to distributed devices;
operating an agent on a plurality of the distributed devices, the agent operating to manage a workload on the distributed devices; and
storing information on the distributed devices, the information facilitating distribution of data by the agents operating on the distributed devices.

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12. The method of claim 11, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate distribution of time sensitive data.

5 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the time sensitive data comprises anti-virus signatures.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the information stored on each distributed device comprises communication addresses of other distributed devices, the communication addresses allowing for rapid peer-to-peer communications.

15. The method of claim 11, further comprising receiving a request for data transmission caching from a requesting device, and distributing workloads to at least one distributed device to accomplish the data transmission caching, and wherein the information stored comprises cached data to be retransmitted to other distributed devices.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the network comprises the Internet, and the requesting device comprises an Internet web site providing a streaming multimedia broadcast.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the caching distributed device is allocated for providing caching services prior to an actual occurrence of the streaming multimedia broadcast.

18. A distributed processing system providing data distribution services, comprising:
a first system coupled to a network, the network being configured to be coupled to distributed devices; and
a plurality of the distributed devices having agents that process distributed workloads and having stored information that facilitates data distribution by the agents.

19. The distributed processing system of claim 18, wherein the information stored comprises information to facilitate distribution of time sensitive data.

21. The distributed processing system of claim 18, wherein the information stored on each distributed device comprises communication addresses of other distributed devices, the communication addresses allowing for rapid peer-to-peer communications.

22. The method of claim 18, wherein the distributed workloads comprise data caching workloads, and wherein the information stored comprises cached data to be retransmitted to other distributed devices.

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